

Message Text

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E.O. 11652:HJDJI

TAGS: ELAB ID

SUBJECT: INDONESIAN LABOR LEADERS TRAVEL POTPOURRI

1. SUMMARY. ALTHOUGH THERE IS NOT MUCH ACTIVITY AT THE RANK AND FILE LEVEL OF THE ALL-INDONESIA LABOR FEDERATION(FBSI), ITS LEADERS AS USUAL ARE SHOWING PLENTY OF TRAVEL ACTIVITY. MANPOWER MINISTER SUBROTO IN HIS FIRST TRIP ABROAD IN THAT CAPACITY IS SETTING AN EXAMPLE BY ATTENDING A CONFERENCE IN TOKYO. FBSI GENERAL CHAIRMAN SUDONO IS IN PERU. OTHER FBSI LEADERS ARE OFF TO YUGOSLAVIA BUT FAILED TO BE IN A POSITION TO ACCEPT INVITATIONS TO VISIT BULGRIA AND SOVIET RUSSIA. STILL ANOTHER FBSI LEADER IS OFF TO THE U.S. AND GASBIINDO'S SECRETARY GENERAL, DESPITE THE FACT THAT HIS ORGANIZATION'S DAYS ARE NUMBERED, HAS WON TRIPS TO JAPAN AND SINGAPORE. END SUMMARY.

2. MANPOWER MINISTER. MINISTER FOR MANPOWER, TRANS-MIGRATION AND COOPERATIVES SUBROTO WILL BE ATTENDING THE ASIAN LABOR MINISERS'S CONFERENCE IN TOKYO, OCTOBER 1-5. HE WILL BE ACCOMPANIED BY A G SAMIL, DIRECTOR OF INFORMATION AND INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS,
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AND DR W P NAPITUPULU, IN CHARGE OF JOB EXPANSION, FROM HIS MINISTRY.

COMMENT: THIS IS SUBROTO'S FIRST TRIP ABROAD U HIS

MANPOWER MINISTRY ROLE. HE WILL SUBMIT A WORKING PAPER ON LABOR, SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT IN INDONESIA. A MINISTRY CONTACT DESCRIBED THE PAPER AS THE ROUTINE SORT OF THING FOR SUCH CONFERENCES, I.E., IT CONTAINS MANY WORDS BUT LITTLE SUBSTANCE. WHILE IN TOKYO, SAMIL MAY CONTACT LABATT IHRIG.

3. FBSI GENERAL CHAIRMAN. AGUS SUDONO CONTINUES HIS PERIPATETIC ACTIVITIES. THISHMIME HE WENT TO LIMA IN HIS ILO CAPACITY TO ATTEND THE ILO INTER-AMERICAN CONFERENCE.

COMENT: SUDONO IS TAKING PAINS TO KEEP HIS ILO CONTACTS IN GOOD CONDITION EVEN THOUGH THIS HAS CAUSED HIM TO INCUR SOME CRITICISM LOCALLY FOR SPENDING TOO MUCH TIME TRAVELLING AND TOO LITTLE ORGANIZING THE FBSI. HE HAS PROBABLY SPENT AT LEAST THREE MONTHS OUT OF THE COUNTRY IN THIS YEAR ALONE. FOR SOME TIME, SUDONO, FOR PERSONAL AND FINANCIAL REASONS, HAS BEEN CONSIDERING LEAVING THE INDONESIAN TRADE UNION MOVEMENT AND TAKING AN ILO JOB IN GENEVA. IT IS QUITE POSSIBLE THAT TO THE OTHER CONSIDERATIONS HE MAY BE THINKING, PROBABLY CORRECTLY, THAT HIS SEAT AS FBSI GENERAL CHAIRMAN IS NONE TOO SECURE - IN PART BECAUSE HE IS NOT A CENTRAL GOLKAR ORGANIZATION LEADER. SUDONO'S PLANS TO ATTEND THE RECENT NON-ALIGNED CONFERENCE IN ALGIERS FELL THROUGH ALTHOUGH FOREIGN MINISTER MALIK HAD SUPPOSEDLY PROMISED THE FBSI THAT A 2-MAN FBSI DELEGATION COULD ATTEND. IN THE VENT, THE POWERS THAT BE PASSED WORD TO SUDONO THAT THE CONFERENCE WOULD BE "TOO COMPLICATED" FOR THE FBSI TO ATTEND.

4. FBSI JAUNT TO SKOPJE. ON SEPT 28, AN FBSI DELEGATION CONSISTING OF RASJID ST RADJAMAS, CHAIRMAN FOR LABOR LAW, THAHERANSJAH KARIM, DEPUTY SECRETARY
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GENERAL FOR SECRETARIAT GENERAL, AND P K GINTINGS, INTERNATIONAL DEPARTMENT, LEFT FOR SKOPJE TO ATTEND THE ASIE /YUGOSLAV TRADE UNIONS SEMINAR BEING SPONSORED BY THE CONFERATION OF YUGOSLAV TRADE UNIONS (CTUY) SEPT 30-OCT 10 (BELGRADE'S TEL 4322).

COMMENT: THERE HAD BEEN SOME QUESTION IN THE MINDS OF INDONESIAN AUTHORITIES RESPONSIBLE FOR APPROVAL OF SUCH TRIPS ABROAD (READ KOPKAMTIB) WHETHER STAUNCHLY ANTI-COMMUNIST INDONESIAN TRADE UNIONSISTS MIGHT NOT SOMEHOW OR OTHER COME UNDER A BALEFUL WFTU INFLUENCE

AT THIS SEMINAR. HOWEVER, WORD RECEIVED FROM THE US LABATT ON THIS SUBJECT WAS REASSURING TO THEM. FBSI AND MANVWER MINISTRY OFFICIALS SHARED THE VIEW THAT THE PURPOSE OF THE SKOPJE MEETING IS THAT OUTLINED IN THE LAST SENTENCE OF BELGRADE'S REFTEL, I.E., TO PROMOTE YUGOSLAV PRE-EMINENCE IN THE NON-ALIGNED MOVEMENT. THE FBSI HAD BEEN ALSO INVITED TO SEND DELEGATIONS TO THE WFTU CONGRESS TO BE HELD IN VARNA, BULGARIA OCT 15-22 AND A SOVIET SPONSORED "PEACE CONFERENCE" IN MOSCOW AT THE END OF OCTOBER. IT WAS DECIDED BY KOPKAMTIB THAT NEITHER OF THESE PROPOSEFW VISITS WERE SUITABLE FOR THE FBSI. IT WILL BE NOTED THAT RASJID, WHO IS CONSIDERED VERY RELIABLE, WAS ALLOWED TO GO TO MOSCOW FOR THE MAY DAY CEREMONIES THIS YEAR. HE CAN BE RELIED ON NOT TO DO, SAY OR WRITE ANYTHING WHICH WOULD DISPLEASE THE GOI AND TO BE CONSISTENTLY ON THE SIDE OF THE PARTY IN POWER - A SURE FORMULA FOR AN INDONESIAN LABOR LEADER TO AVOID BEING CONTROVERSIAL.

5. FBSI CENTRAL DAILY EXECUTIVE BOARD CHAIRMAN FOR ORGANIZATIO PM MR SUKIJAT, INCUMBENT OF THIS POSITION, WILL BE LEAVING ON OCTOBER 4 FOR THE U.S. (STATE'S 148413) TO ATTEND THE CONFERENCE OF FREE TRADE UNIONS IN THE DEVELOPING WORD IN WASHINGTON AND THE AFL-CIO 10TH BIENNIAL CONVENTION IN MAIAMI. COMMENT: SUKIJAT WON THE SWEEPSTAKES FOR THIS VISIT PARTLY BY DEFAULT ON THE PART OF AGUS SUDONO (WHO FELT THAT MORE TRAVEL GOODIES SHOULD GO TO TOLKAR PEOPLE) LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND PARTLY BECAUSE HE IS AS RELIABLE AS RASJID (SEE ABOVE) AND TWICE AS SMART. ALSO HE IS IN EXTREMELY GOOD STANDING WITH THE GOLKAR HIERACHY. AT THE RECENT GOLKAR NATIONAL CONGRESS IN SURABAYA, HE WAS RENAMED TO THE POSITION OF GOLKAR SECRETARY FOR MANPOWER. LIKE HIS GOLKAR COLLEAGUES, FBSI SECRETARY GENERAL SOEKARNO AND FBSI INTERNATIONAL RELATIONS DEPARTMENT MEMBER GINTINGS, SUKIJAT IS ON THE DIRECT PAYROLL OF GOLKAR. THIS, OF COURSE, IS NOT UNUSUAL IN INDONESIA TODAY, SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES BEING MERELY PART AND PARCEL OF GOLKAR'S AIM TO INSPIRE AND GUIDE ALL INDONESIAN MASS ORGANIZATIONS. SKEPTICS COULD TERM THIS A NEW FORM OF GUIDED DEMOCRACY. IN THE FBSI DAILY EXECUTIVE BOARD, FOR EXAMPLE, DECISIONS ARE ARRIVED AT BY FIAT FROM ABOVE RATHER THAN THROUGH THE OLD-FASHIONED TIME-WASTING PROCESS OF DEMOCRATIC DISCUSSIONS.

6. GASBIIDNO SECRETARY GENERAL. SJOFJAN HAMDANY IS CURRENTLY IN TOKYO ATTENDING AN ICFTU SEMINAR ON THAT

NEWEST EVERGREEN, MILTI-NATIONAL CORPORATIONS. THIS
WILL BE FOLLOWED IMMEDIATELY BY HIS ATTENDANCE AT A
DOMEI SPONSORED SEMINAR IN TOKYO. THAT DONE HE MUST
IMMEDIATELY ATTEND AN ICFTU REGIONAL MEETING IN
SINGAPORE.

COMMENT: HAMDANSVIS ALMSOT AS PERIPATETIC AS
HIS LONG TIME PROTECTOR SUDONO. IT IS PROBABLY
COINCIDENTAL THAT HIS PRESENT TRAVELS ENABLE HIM
TO ESCAPE SOME OF THE RIGORS OF RAMADAN. WHILE IN
TOKYO, HE WILL BE CONTACTING CURTIS HOGAN, IFPCW
ASSISTANT
SECRETARY CONCERNING DETAILS OF A SCHEME
THAT HE AND SUDONO HAVE EVIDENTLY COOKED UP TO HAVE
SOME SORT OF IFPCW SPONSORED SEMINAR IN INDONESIA FOR
OIL UNION OFFICIALS (STATE 180438 AND 190222).
WHETHER WITH UNION OFFICIALS AND
SOME OR ANY OF THE
TEN OTHER INDONESIAN PETROLEUM AND MINING WORKERS
UNIONS BESIDES HAMDANY'S SERUBIMIT GASBIINDO MEMBERS
IS NOT CLEAR.
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